

antagonists of PKR (Protein Kinase R). PKR is a critical enzyme in the interferon signaling pathway which has been implicated in cross-talk between the interferon signaling pathway and the TNF- α apoptosis signaling pathway. The peptide antagonists described herein may be used to inhibit apoptosis or to stimulate cell proliferation under conditions of cell cycle arrest, reduced growth or quiescence leading to possible applications in wound healing, cell culture, or skin grafts.

A portion of this work has appeared in *Virology* 222 (1): 193-200 (August 1, 1996).

AAV4 Vector and Uses Thereof

JA Chiorini, RM Kotin, B Safer (NHLBI), Serial No. 60/025,934 filed 09 Sept 96 and PCT/US97/16266

These patent applications describe the cloning and characterization of the full-length genome of adeno-associated virus type 4 (AAV4). AAV4, like other members of the AAV family may be useful as a vector for gene therapy.

When compared to AAV2 AAV4 may be better suited as a vector due to its larger size which permits efficient encapsidation of a larger recombinant genome, its greater buoyant density which allows for easier separation of AAV4 from contaminating helper virus. Other characteristics of AAV4 which distinguish it from AAV2 and AAV3 are its expanded promoter region, its distinct capsid protein, its different tissue tropism and its ability to bind hemagglutinin (HA). While AAV4 has several distinguishing characteristics from AAV2 and AAV3 it also shares significant homology, greater than 90%, with the Rep proteins of AAV2 and AAV3.

Studies using a lacZ reporter gene suggest that AAV4 can transduce human, monkey, and rat cells. Other studies comparing transduction efficiencies in a number of cell lines, competition cotransduction experiments and the effect of trypsin on transduction efficiency suggest that the cellular receptor for AAV4 is distinct from that of AAV2.

This research has been published in *J. Virology* 71(9): 6823-33 (Sept 1997) and as PCT Publication 98/11244 (March 19, 1998).

Dated: December 21, 1998.

Jack Spiegel, Ph.D.,

Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer Office of Technology Transfer.
[FR Doc. 98-34529 Filed 12-29-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel Hemophilia and vWD Resource

Date: January 13, 1999

Time: 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications

Place: Rockledge Bldg. II, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call)

Contact Person: David T. George, PHD, MD, Scientific Review Administrator, NIH, NHLBI, DEA, Review Branch, Rockledge Building II, Room 7188, 6701 Rockledge Drive, MD 20892-7924, 301/435-0288

Name of Committee: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel GenHAT

Date: January 25, 1999

Time: 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications

Place: Gaithersburg Hilton Hotel, 620 Perry Parkway, Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Contact Person: Anthony M. Coelho, PHD, Leader, Clinical Studies, SRG, NIH, NHLBI, DEA, Rockledge Center II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 7194, Bethesda, MD 20892-7924, (301) 435-0288

Name of Committee: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel IRAS Family Study: Genetics of Insulin Resistance

Date: January 25-26, 1999

Time: January 25, 1999, 9:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications

Place: Gaithersburg Hilton Hotel, 620 Perry Parkway, Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Time: January 26, 1999, 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications

Place: Gaithersburg Hilton Hotel, 620 Perry Parkway, Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Contact Person: Anthony M. Coelho, PHD, Leader, Clinical Studies SRG, NIH, NHLBI,

DEA, Rockledge Center II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 7194, Bethesda, MD 20892-7924, (301) 435-0288

Name of Committee: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel MDECODE Cooperative Research Program

Date: January 26, 1999

Time: 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications

Place: Gaithersburg Hilton Hotel, 620 Perry Parkway, Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Contact Person: Anthony M. Coelho, PHD, Leader, Clinical Studies, SRG, NIH, NHLBI, DEA, Rockledge Center II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 7194, Bethesda, MD 20892-7924, (301) 435-0288

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.233, National Center for Sleep Disorders Research; 93.837, Heart and Vascular Diseases Research; 93.838, Lung Diseases Research; 93.839, Blood Diseases and Resources Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: December 23, 1998.

Anna Snouffer,

Acting Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98-34533 Filed 12-29-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Advisory Council.

The meeting will be open to the public as indicated below, with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the Contact Person listed below in advance of the meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and/or contract proposals and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications and/or contract proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Advisory Council